Chapter 1393 Lone Figure in the Moonlit Night

Qiu Mu-Cheng couldn't help but worry. Were the five members of the Green Dragon Force able to hold up against an entire family of martial artists?

But she started to think about it in a different way.

Ye Fan had died serving the country, so he was considered a hero to the martial arts circle.

Logically speaking, the country ought to protect the surviving family of a fallen national hero.

Qiu Mu-Cheng figured that even if the Lv family really coveted Ye Fan's assets and tried to take over, they wouldn't do it overtly or attract too much attention while doing such a thing.

After all, such actions were considered despicable and unethical, so the martial arts circle would definitely despise the family if they found out about their deeds.

So she felt that the Lv family would just pull a few stunts quietly in order to mess Jiangdong up.

If that was the case, then the five members of the Green Dragon Force should be more than enough to deal with any covert actions by the Lv family.

Some of the panic and worry in Qiu Mu-Cheng's heart dissipated after thinking about it this way.

She told Li Er, "Master Er, let's get the Green Dragons to come over as soon as possible. By hook or by crook, they must get here before tomorrow night!"

Ye Fan had left in a hurry and didn't arrange for a lot of powerful martial artists to protect Jiangdong.

After all, Ye Fan hadn't been too worried when he first agreed to go on this mission.

He felt that the mission was going to be very simple and straightforward and he would return in no time, so he hadn't made any plans or put any backups in place before leaving.

Ye Qing-Tian had told Ye Fan that all the representatives fighting for spirit energy fruits would be martial artists who weren't

even at grandmaster level.

Ye Fan was a supreme grandmaster, so he could kill an entire army of such low level martial artists. It wasn't surprising that Ye Fan considered this mission a simple one.

There was no way that Ye Fan could have predicted that a simple fight for spirit energy fruits would turn out to be a gathering of supreme grandmasters.

Thankfully, the Green Dragon Force that Ye Fan had groomed personally were still in China.

Probably Ye Fan himself would never have dreamt that the few youngsters he agreed to train back then would turn out to be Jiangdong's only defense against an impending attack by a martial arts power.

Of course, there were other martial artists within the large province of Jiangdong.

But they were mostly just learning martial arts for fun and were all very low level fighters, so they weren't of much use in this situation.

The only ones that Jiangdong could rely on at such times were the five members of the Green Dragon Force that Ye Fan had left behind.

But the Green Dragons had gone to the wilderness for training.

Qiu Mu-Cheng could only hope that they could return in time.

The night passed quickly.

Qiu Mu-Cheng continued to go to work like she always did.

Besides Li Er and the other two who were in the house that fateful day, Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't tell anybody else about what happened to Ye Fan.

She didn't even tell her best friend, Su Qian, about it.

This was a very grave matter, so if she didn't tread carefully, Mufan Group would be in serious trouble.

So Qiu Mu-Cheng kept this a secret from everyone else.

Chapter 1393 Lone Figure in the Moonlit Night





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INSCREVER-SE

In the evening, Qiu Mu-Cheng returned to Mount Yunding Villa.

Shortly after arriving home, she received a call.

It was from Ye Fan's mother, Ye Xi-Mei.

Mufan Group had a branch office in Fenghai, and Ye Xi-Mei was in charge of managing that office.

It was now after office hours, so she figured that Ye Xi-Mei wasn't calling about work.

Her heart immediately trembled at this thought.

She got herself mentally prepared, then picked up the call.

"Hello Mum, how are you? I've been so busy at work and I haven't had time to visit you," said Qiu Mu-Cheng in a gentle voice.

"Hello Mu-Cheng, I'm doing fine. You should take care of yourself too, don't tire yourself out. Where's Ye Fan? Is he back yet? This terrible boy hasn't called me in months."

"What? He's still not back yet? This fellow is really getting out of hand! Even if he doesn't want his mother, I'm sure he still wants his wife, right? He's the man but he's out all the time and just leaves the heavy responsibility of handling the company to his wife! If my precious daughter-in-law collapses from exhaustion, I'm going to break his legs!"

. . . .

"Mu-Cheng, this Ye Fan is not meticulous and doesn't know how to care for you, but you have to be kind to yourself. Don't always take on everything by yourself. There's only so much one person can do. If you overexert yourself, you will fall ill. It's alright to give yourself a break and rest from time to time."

....

"Also, you've been married to Fan for some time now, so the two of you should think about having children. Before this, you were all busy with work and were still young, so I didn't want to hurry you two. But it's high time you two put this on your to do list."

....

"You two would be more like a family with children. Men are like kites, and their wife and children are the string that holds them down. No matter how high and far they fly, as long as their wife and children are waiting for them at home, they'll come back."

• • • • •

Ye Xi-Mei chatted with Qiu Mu-Cheng about everyday things over the phone.

Her gentle voice was filled with concern and warmth for Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Such a call at this time was like having a bowl of warm porridge on a freezing night in winter to Qiu Mu-Cheng. Tears almost immediately covered the face of this usually strong woman.

"Yes, Mum, you're right. No matter how far he goes, he'll come back. He'll always come back. I'll continue to wait for him, no matter how long it takes..." Qiu Mu-Cheng tried hard to smile, but her tears kept flowing down her cheeks uncontrollably. Her pretty eyes were bloodshot and her tears fell to the floor like shiny pearls in the light.

"Mu-Cheng, what's wrong? Are you ill? Why does your voice sound so nasal?" asked Ye Xi-Mei worriedly as if she had noticed something different about Qiu Mu-Cheng's voice.

Qiu Mu-Cheng quickly tried to control her emotions and wiped her tears away. "Mum, I'm fine, I just think I might be coming down with the flu. I have another meeting to attend to, so if there's nothing else, I'll hang up now."

She was afraid that she might not be able to control her emotions and Ye Xi-Mei would smell a rat, so she quickly found an excuse to put the phone down.

She didn't tell Ye Xi-Mei about what had happened to Ye Fan and intended to keep it a secret for the time being. She would tell her mother-in-law when the opportunity rose.

Once she put the phone down, Qiu Mu-Cheng couldn't hold her tears back anymore and started sobbing again.

"Ye Fan, you awful man! Where on earth are you? I know you're still alive, I'm sure you're still alive! But why don't you contact me? Why aren't you home yet..." Qiu Mu-Cheng's miserable and sorrowful voice echoed within the house.

CLAP CLAP CLAP!

Just then, she heard the sound of applause from outside the door.

The door that was shut fast was pushed open from outside.

Qiu Mu-Cheng looked up in shock to see Lv Hua clapping away as he marched into the house with a smile on his face.

The cold wind outside made his clothes flap wildly.

The icy moonlight shone on him, creating a foggy shadow on the floor.

"Miss Qiu, your devotion to your lover is really moving. I've seen countless women in my thirty years on this earth. All of them were either fickle-minded or greedy for money and power. You are the only one I've met who's this sentimental and loyal. Even though your lover is already dead, your feelings for him don't seem to have changed at all. It's so hard to find someone like you in this materialistic society."

"Miss Qiu, I think I'm really falling in love with you now. If I could have someone like you as my wife and spend my nights with you, I would be the happiest man in the world," exclaimed Lv Hua as he expressed his admiration for Qiu Mu-Cheng.

At the same time, his words revealed how much he coveted Qiu Mu-Cheng's beauty.

"It's you!" Qiu Mu-Cheng got a terrible shock when she realized that the man who had just walked into her house was Lv Hua. She frowned and said angrily, "How did you get in here?"

After Ye Fan became the King of Jiangdong, Mount Yunding Villa had become an important place in Jiangdong. As a result,

security around the estate was very tight.

Now that they were faced with trouble ahead, Qiu Mu-Cheng got Li Er to double the number of security guards around the estate. In fact, Qiu Mu-Cheng had specifically instructed the guards at the foot of the mountain to make sure that nobody got into the estate without her permission when she came back earlier.

She didn't expect Lv Hua to be able to get through everything without a sound and practically waltz into her house.

Before this, she hadn't sensed a single thing.

It was hard for her not to feel frantic.

After all, this meant that if Lv Hua wanted to, he could kill Qiu Mu-Cheng at any time.

Lv Hua instantly burst out laughing at Qiu Mu-Cheng's question. His laughter was filled with disdain and mocking.

"Miss Qiu, are you sure you're the wife to a supreme grandmaster? Don't you know that those people you've placed around the estate are nothing to a highly skilled martial

artist? Never mind Mount Yunding – I can go anywhere in Jiangdong I want. Nobody will be able to block my way," said Lv Hua in a valiant and domineering voice.

He wasn't showing off. He was truly confident of this.

It was a confidence that martial artists had over those who did not practice martial arts.

It was also a fact that even though Lv Hua was not a grandmaster, he had been an imminent grandmaster for some time now, so he wasn't too far from actually becoming a grandmaster.

His current level of martial arts was definitely more than enough for him to go anywhere in Jiangdong without any problems.

Jiangdong wasn't an area that was strong in martial arts to begin with.

Out of the ten grandmasters on the grandmasters ranking, none of them hailed from Jiangdong.

Without Ye Fan, Jiangdong's position in the

Chinese martial arts world wouldn't be worth mentioning at all.

Now that Ye Fan was dead, Lv Hua didn't have to fear this province at all.

"Alright now, I don't want to waste too much time talking. Miss Qiu, one day has already passed. It's time you told me of your final decision."

Lv Hua stood proudly against the backdrop of the dark night.

He looked down at the young lady in front of him from above, as if he was a predator eyeing its prey.

Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't reply him, but her face was already as white as a sheet.

"Why, still haven't thought it through? Or are you still struggling to make a decision? Mu-Cheng, why make things so difficult for yourself?" Lv Hua's tone of voice suddenly became a lot gentler.

"Ye Fan is already dead and you're all by yourself now. I'm sure you're feeling really empty and lonely at night. I'm single too, and

I'm also sad that there's nobody to accompany me at night too. Why don't we get married? I'll help you to weather the storms out there and stabilize Jiangdong outside, and then at home I'll be gentle and comfort you. I'll give you a lifetime of enjoyment and eliminate the loneliness and emptiness in your heart."

"It's a win-win situation for us, so why are you still hesitating? I guarantee that once you become my woman, I will never let you shed tears from losing your companion like you did earlier!" said Lv Hua as he started walking towards Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Greed and a burning fire within him shone in his eyes.

It seemed like Lv Hua had decided that he wasn't going to leave until Qiu Mu-Cheng was his.

"Dream on! I've already told you that I will never marry you, and I will never hand Mufan Group over to you!" Qiu Mu-Cheng rejected him outright with a resolute look in her eyes. There was no room for negotiation at all.

Ly Hua looked mildly disappointed by this

response.

"Mu-Cheng, why are you being so hard on yourself? Smart animals always find the best place to build a home and intelligent officials always choose the best leader to work for. This has always been the way the world works, so why are you being so obstinate?"

"If you become my wife, then I will keep everything you have now and give you even greater power and position. But if you reject this offer, I'm sure you know what sort of consequences await you. At the very least, you will definitely lose everything you have right now. There's no way you're able to keep Mufan Group all by yourself," Lv Hua persuaded her again.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng was decided and wasn't going to change her mind.

"Qiu Mu-Cheng, it's your honor that I've taken a liking to you, so you'd better cooperate while I'm still being polite. There's nothing that I've wanted in my life and couldn't have!"

The repeated rejection from Qiu Mu-Cheng

had turned Lv Hua's mild frustration into anger.

His gaze darkened, his fists were clenched tightly and his gentlemanly manner was nowhere to be seen. He now looked coldly at Qiu Mu-Cheng.

He started walking even more quickly towards Qiu Mu-Cheng.

"What are you trying to do?! Lv Hua, don't you dare come any nearer!"

Lv Hua had peeled away his hypocritical mask and was closing the gap between himself and Qiu Mu-Cheng.

He looked like he was going to take Qiu Mu-Cheng by force!

Qiu Mu-Cheng was terrified and suddenly pulled out a revolver from somewhere before pointing it straight at Lv Hua.

"Stand where you are! If you take another step forward, I'll shoot!" threatened Qiu Mu-Cheng coldly as she held the gun with both hands and aimed it at Lv Hua's forehead.

Lv Hua immediately stopped walking.

A grandmaster wasn't afraid of guns and cannons, but Lv Hua wasn't at that level yet, so he wasn't going to let anyone shoot at him. He had to take Qiu Mu-Cheng's threat seriously.

"Miss Qiu, I'd advise you to calm down. If you shoot me, then I'm afraid you'd have to spend the rest of your life in jail," said Lv Hua in a low voice.

"Get out of here!" yelled Qiu Mu-Cheng coldly. She didn't want to waste her breath on him.

Lv Hua didn't move at first, so Qiu Mu-Cheng moved the gun closer to him.

"Alright, alright, I'll get out, I'll get out. Just don't shoot me."

Lv Hua watched her as he carefully started taking steps backwards.

But there was no way Lv Hua was going to leave just like that.

So after taking a few steps backwards, he found the right timing to leap to the side.

BANG!

At the same time, Qiu Mu-Cheng pulled the trigger of the gun in her hands.

However, there was no way an ordinary woman like Qiu Mu-Cheng could match the speed of a martial artist.

The bullet hit air.

Just when Qiu Mu-Cheng was ready to fire a second and third shot, Lv Hua had kicked the table in front of him towards her.

The sound of the tables and chairs being dragged across the floor from the impact was ear piercing.

It was soon followed by a groan from Qiu Mu-Cheng as the table hit her in the arm.

The gun she held was also knocked out of her hand and fell onto the floor.

Qiu Mu-Cheng got a shock from what happened, but she endured the pain in her arm and tried her best to pick the gun up again.

But Lv Hua's foot was already on top of the gun.

His foot broke the gun to pieces in an instant.

"I'm surprised that a frail looking woman like you would actually have such guts. You actually tried firing a shot. But did you really think you could possibly kill me so easily?"

Lv Hua stared down at her with a threatening look in his eyes.

The fury in those eyes only intensified as time went by.

They were beginning to look more and more determined to get Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was feeling very fearful inside, but she still managed to maintain most of her composure.

She started moving backwards and

threatened Lv Hua at the same time, "Mr Lv, I'd advise you to stop before it's too late. The gunshots I fired earlier would have alerted the security guards around here. I'm sure there are a few dozen tall and muscular guards running over right now, and it will be difficult for you to leave once they get here."

"Besides, Ye Fan has made contributions to the country, so even if he's really dead, he would have died serving the country. But you've come here so brazenly to hanker after a fallen hero's surviving assets and widow. Aren't you afraid that your actions would incur the wrath of the martial arts authorities if they found out?" said Qiu Mu-Cheng in a frosty voice while secretly making a call to Li Er.

But Lv Hua merely shook his head and snorted. "Don't you use the martial arts circle of this country to threaten me. I'll be honest with you. I'm not the only one who's happy that Ye Fan is dead, you know?"

"There are also members among the authorities of the martial arts circle who prefer him dead. You're Ye Fan's wife, so I'm sure you know your husband's temperament. That temper of his offends everybody he

meets, so even if the Lv family doesn't take care of him, someone else would."

"As for you, even if you decide against submitting to me and I let you go today, another enemy of his will come knocking on your door sooner or later."

Lv Hua's words were like ice pouring down on Qiu Mu-Cheng's heart.

She finally understood why Lv Hua was so bold as to actually covet the assets of a national hero. So it turned out that even the higher ups of the martial arts authorities in the country didn't like Ye Fan either.

She wondered what Ye Fan would think if he knew about this.

It was as if Ye Fan was a general who had died in battle for the country he loved and the king he had been loyal to, but neither was grateful for his contributions, and after his passing, they took over his assets and trampled on his family.

Anyone would have felt greatly saddened and disappointed if this happened to them.



"HAHA! Why aren't you saying anything? Do you suddenly feel that this society is actually very cruel? Or do you suddenly realize that this society is actually really heartless? This is just how the world has always worked. If you need to blame someone for your predicament, you should be blaming Ye Fan for being too stupid." Lv Hua laughed merrily.

Just then, the security guards came rushing in from outside after they had heard the gunshot earlier.

"Miss Qiu, are you alright? We are so sorry for our terrible oversight," said the leader of the guards worriedly.

After that, he looked up at Lv Hua and shouted angrily, "Who are you? How dare you be so rude to Miss Qiu? You'd better leave Mount Yunding right now, otherwise we'll get nasty!"

Lv Hua glanced at the guards, then shook his head. "How noisy!"

He sent a kick in their direction after he spat those words out.

BAM!

The leader of the guards immediately flew out from the living room like a rubber ball.

He crashed onto the ground and convulsed uncontrollably. He couldn't even make any sound.

"Oh my god..."

The remaining guards were too stunned to speak.

Their leader weighed more than 100 kilograms but he was actually sent flying with just one kick.

This opponent was unbelievably strong.

"Does anyone still want to block my way?" asked Lv Hua arrogantly as he glanced at everyone else with his hands behind his back after he had sent one man flying.

Nobody dared to say a word.

"What useless pieces of trash all of you are! Just one kick and none of you dare to move anymore? Why do I bother paying any of you?!" A furious voice shouted from outside.

A slightly plump middle aged man came running in with Jin Bao, Yin Bao and other men surrounding him.

This middle aged man was the most powerful man in Yunzhou, Li Er!

He didn't live too far from Mount Yunding, so once he got the call from Qiu Mu-Cheng, he was able to arrive very quickly.

When they saw that Li Er was here, the guards lowered their heads fearfully and greeted him politely.

The person with the most authority in Yunzhou besides Ye Fan was Li Er.

"Mr Lv, it's you again. What on earth do you want? I know that your family is a powerful one in Jiangbei, and very rich too. But Jiangdong has never had any dealings or run-ins with your family all these years. I simply cannot understand why you are behaving like this now," said Li Er with an icy voice and a darkened look in his eyes.

Lv Hua chuckled when he heard these words. "Master Er, right? I think you're mistaken somewhere. This is a private

matter between myself and Mu-Cheng, and has nothing to do with my family. It's also nothing to do with outsiders like you."

"A private matter? What utter nonsense! I think you've failed to get Miss Qiu to submit to you and you've become enraged, so you want to take her by force! What an animal you are! How outrageous! How dare you covet Mr Chu's wife! I'm going to slaughter you on behalf of Mr Chu this very day!" Li Er's furious voice echoed loudly in the living room. The bodyguards he had brought along immediately charged at Lv Hua.

All of a sudden, a fight broke out on the peak of Mount Yunding.

At the same time, Li Er, pulled Qiu Mu-Cheng to his side and quickly said to her, "Miss Qiu, this Lv Hua is probably a martial artist himself and my subordinates won't be able to hold him back for long. It's not safe to remain in Yunzhou anymore. Seize this chance to run for it! I have a car waiting outside that will send you to Jiangdong's military camp and you can seek shelter there for the moment."

"I've also already arranged for your mother-

in-law to be sent to a safe place, and once the Green Dragons arrive, I'll get them to look for you at the military camp," said Li Er with a solemn look on his face.

"But Master Er, the company..."

"No buts. Your life is more important right now. If anything untoward happens to you, the first person Mr Chu will slaughter is me when he returns. Hurry along now." Li Er pushed Qiu Mu-Cheng into the car.



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"Thinking of leaving? You think you can?" A sneer came from behind just as Qiu Mu-Cheng got into the car.

Lv Hua's skinny body suddenly appeared in front of the car to block it from going anywhere.

All the bodyguards that Li Er had brought along were all sprawled on the floor and none of them could get up anymore.

Li Er didn't think that Lv Hua would have been able to defeat a few dozen men in such a short time.

It was really impossible for ordinary folks to go up against a martial artist after all.

"Hurry up and just drive! Drive! Knock him down!"

Li Er couldn't think so much anymore. Sending Mr Chu's wife to a safe place was the most urgent matter at hand.

So even though Lv Hua was standing in front of the car, Li Er just told Jin Bao to keep driving even if it meant knocking Lv Hua down.

Jin Bao did not hesitate after Li Er gave the order.

He changed gears and stepped hard on the accelerator.

VROOM!

The ear deafening sound of the engine sounded like the roar of a wild beast.

It howled angrily as it headed furiously for Lv Hua.

But Lv Hua wasn't going to just stand there and wait to be knocked down.

Before the car could really pick up speed, he dashed towards the car with wide strides.

He used his hands to grab the front of the car, then pulled upwards violently.

His hands had actually flipped the entire car over just like that.

The four wheels faced the sky and all that engine power earlier was powerless against its rotating in the air.

"Miss Qiu!!" Li Er was horrified by this sight.

He ran over with bloodshot eyes and yelled at his subordinates to rescue her.

Thankfully the car had been overturned while it was still traveling at a low speed, so Qiu Mu-Cheng and everyone else in the car were not badly injured. Of course, it was inevitable that they had been scratched in several places like their arms, legs and back, and Qiu Mu-Cheng's forehead was red and swollen from taking a hit.

"You little bastard! What the hell are you trying to do?! Mr Chu sacrificed himself for the country, so that makes him a national hero! How dare you be so disrespectful to a fallen hero's family?" roared Li Er fiercely after he had gotten Qiu Mu-Cheng safely out of the overturned car.

"I told you earlier that this is my private matter. I don't mean to be disrespectful to a fallen hero's family either. I just want to give Miss Qiu happiness. I didn't intend to kill any of you, and didn't intend to cover this mountain in blood either. I just want to take her away to be my woman!"

"Miss Qiu, I think I've said quite enough. If you refuse to come with me while I'm still being polite to you, then I'll take you away by force. There is no woman that I've taken a fancy to that I couldn't have!" Lv Hua declared as he stretched his hand out to grab hold of Qiu Mu-Cheng.

"You bastard! How dare you!" shouted Li Er loudly as he dashed over to stop Lv Hua.

"Stupid old man! Get lost!" Lv Hua kicked the man blocking his way aside.

Li Er yelped in pain as he crashed to the floor and rolled.

Jin Bao and Yin Bao endured the pain of their injuries and tried to protect Qiu Mu-Cheng as well.

But their efforts were futile.

The two of them couldn't possibly stop Lv Hua at all.

In a matter of seconds, no one stood in front of Qiu Mu-Cheng to protect her.

This incomparable beauty was now exposed





to the imminent storm coming for her.

"Mu-Cheng, just give it up. Now that Ye Fan is dead, nobody in this world can protect you!" laughed Lv Hua menacingly before stretching those evil hands of his towards Qiu Mu-Cheng.

But before Lv Hua's hands could land on Qiu Mu-Cheng, the sound of something slicing through the air swooshed past.

Five figures came down from the sky like deities, descending on earth at the speed of light.

This team immediately started attacking with their best moves the moment they appeared.

"Back Power Boxing!"

"White Tiger Claws!"

"Wave Riding Kick!"

A flurry of attacks came hurtling down like a thunderstorm.

The attacks seemed to cover the land and









filled the air.

Even Lv Hua's expression changed when he sensed this threat.

He didn't dare to be careless, and used all his energy to fight back.

BAM BAM BAM BAM!

Lv Hua threw out several punches. The low boom of the collisions sounded like rolling thunder.

But he was unable to take on such a great number of attacks by himself. He ended up having to retreat a few dozen steps.

It was only when he slammed into a high wall behind him that he finally managed to steady himself again.

"Damn it! Who are you people?! How dare you poke your nose into my affairs?! I think you're all tired of living!" barked Lv Hua fiercely.

He tried his best to suppress the energy and blood surging through his body before looking up and glaring at these intruders





with a furious look in his eyes. His handsome face was filled with nothing but grimness and anger.

But the five who suddenly appeared couldn't be bothered with him.

After forcing Lv Hua to retreat, the five of them turned around and bowed towards Qiu Mu-Cheng instead.

"Miss Qiu, we're so sorry that we've come so late! We promised our teacher and master to protect his wife at all costs but we have let him down! Please go ahead and punish us!"

"Please punish us!"

The Green Dragons bowed deeply towards Qiu Mu-Cheng and spoke with much reverence and respect in their voices.

They were a team put together by Ye Fan and taught by him, so Ye Fan was their teacher and master, so they had a duty to respect and protect Ye Fan's wife as well.

"It's alright, I'm glad you guys got here in time." Qiu Mu-Cheng's fearful heart finally calmed down as she smiled at them.





A warm feeling spread through her heart as she looked at the team before her.

There was a deep sense of bliss and gratitude in her eyes.

Qiu Mu-Cheng finally realized that Ye Fan had set up this team for her sake. He had planted them here so that they could protect her even when he wasn't around.

What she saw in the five people standing before her was the care and protection of that young man towards her.

No matter whether it was during his lifetime or after, he was still fulfilling his promise to her.

He was going to protect her and give her a lifetime of peace and stability!

"Did you say she's the wife of your teacher and master? Are you guys Ye Fan's proteges? That asshole actually left disciples behind?" Lv Hua frowned when he heard what the Green Dragon Force had said earlier and got a shock.

He hadn't expected Ye Fan to leave a layer of





protection of behind even though he was already dead.

"Ye Fan, it looks like I really have to change my opinion of you. You've actually made provisions for the possibility that you wouldn't come back alive." Lv Hua's eyes darkened and he clenched his fists tightly.

He thought that without Ye Fan, Jiangdong would be his for sure, and nobody would be able to stand in his way.

But the appearance of the Green Dragon Force made Lv Hua look at the situation more seriously.

"Shut up! You little bastard! How dare you try to harm Miss Qiu! And how dare you say that our instructor isn't going to come back alive? I think the one who's not going to leave this place alive is you! The Green Dragons are going to take your lowly life today on Instructor Chu's behalf!" shouted Ye Yu-Yan angrily.

"Green Dragons, listen to my command! This man is a wicked fellow, so come with me and slaughter him!"





A wintry wind blew, sending dust into the air.

The eyes of all five members of the Green Dragon Force turned frosty. A major battle was about to begin!



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"You want to slaughter me? A bunch of youngsters like you want to slaughter me? How boastful. I highly doubt you're anywhere near Ye Fan's level." Lv Hua wasn't afraid of the Green Dragons at all.

He could tell that this team was made up of people who were beginner martial artists.

They weren't very powerful, and they were at innate stage at best. In fact, they might not even be at innate stage, and were just at the external energies stage.

There were four levels below grandmaster stage: internal energies, external energies, innate and imminent.

Lv Hua was already at imminent grandmaster stage, so he didn't need to be afraid of these five youths.

He attributed his earlier defeat to being caught off guard.

If he was prepared for their attacks, he could take them head on without any fear.

But even though Lv Hua despised the five of them, he wasn't going to go easy on them.

Even a tiger used all its strength to capture a rabbit after all.

Lv Hua planned on giving this battle his best shot so that he could get rid of all these people as quickly as possible.

Once he had decided, Lv Hua stopped hesitating and leapt into the sky.

"Lv Fist Technique, Mount Tai's Peak!
Ultimate Destruction! Thousand Ton Slam!"

Low blasts could be heard as Lv Hua's feet slammed into the ground before rising into the air again.

His tremendous power surged into the air like the waves of the ocean.

Lv Hua had unleashed his most fatal move.

Crazier still, he had sent three moves out in quick succession.

One attack followed another, one fist came after another.

Each one was stronger than the previous one.

The last one in particular, was nearly as powerful as a bolt of lightning.

The impact of the fist carried an explosive power as it was swung violently towards the Green Dragon Force.

The Green Dragons didn't dare to take their opponent lightly after they realized that he was much stronger than themselves.

They dashed out to get into formation.

The four boys stood on the left, right, front and back of Ye Yu-Yan.

Lv Hua had never seen such a weird formation before.

"What a bunch of idiots! Why are they standing so far apart for? But that's better for me, since I can now take them down individually! They must be hoping for a quick death!" snorted Lv Hua menacingly. His eyes were filled with malice and audacity.

But his smugness didn't last for too long.

It didn't take long for Lv Hua to realize that to his shock and horror, the sky was darkening

as the Green Dragon Force started accumulating energies within their formation.

The wind soon began to howl and pick up speed, threatening to become a hurricane.

Everywhere that the wind blew, sand and rocks were sent flying.

The sky was darkening at a terrifying rate.

Billowing gray clouds blotted the sun out.

One could even make out the sound of rumbling thunder in the distance.

The energies of the universe were gathering and moving at high speeds like a pot of boiling water.

It was as if they had been commanded to head straight for where the Green Dragon Force was standing.

Meanwhile, the Green Dragon Force was like a dry sponge that was crazily absorbing the intense amount of natural energies surging towards them.

Their power was visibly increasing at an alarming rate.

They were like a fire that started as a small bushfire, but was now ready to set a forest ablaze.

This terrifying increase in power made Lv Hua's expression change dramatically.

"What the hell are they doing? How are they able to amass so much energy all of a sudden?"

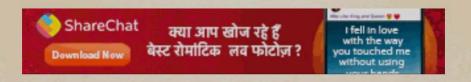
The unknown was always the most frightening.

Lv Hua had practiced martial arts for many years and had fought in nearly a hundred battles.

But this was the first time he was seeing something like this.

How did they manage to make the weather change? And the change in weather was so drastic.

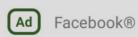
If Lu Tian-He were here, he would have recognized the Green Dragon Force's







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formation as the very same one that they used back in Jiangbei to wipe out all the other special forces in the military camp.

Many had witnessed the way this team had unleashed that attack, but almost all of them had been turned to dust from that attack.

After many months, the Green Dragons joined hands once more to fight an enemy. Their most powerful attack was about to appear once again!

"No, I can't let them continue to accumulate energy. I have to find a way to stop them."

Lv Hua was beginning to feel terror and despair in his heart when he realized how powerful the five of them was becoming.

He couldn't waste any more time and decided to attack them immediately.

But just as Lv Hua began his attacks, the Green Dragon Force had completed their preparation.

It was as though a bow had been fully drawn back and was about to shoot with a mighty force!

"Thunder Torch Dragon Formation, ARISE!"

BOOM!

Their authoritative voices resonated loudly in the air.

Everyone else watched in shock and terror as a gigantic and shapeless formation began to rise from beneath the Green Dragon Force's feet.

A green dragon covered in fiery flames shot through the clouds and caused thunder to rumble loudly!

SWOOSH!

That long swoosh cut through the air like a bolt of lightning.

An illusion of an enormous torch dragon flew majestically in the air as it roared. It headed straight for Lv Hua at an unstoppable speed.

"Oh, so it was a formation attack. It looks fancy, but I doubt it's able to do anything. I don't think a bunch of youngsters could possibly turn the tables on me," growled Lv

Hua as he gnashed his teeth. He looked at them hatefully and murderously as their torch dragon continued to come towards him.

Lv Hua then unleashed his most powerful move and it collided heavily with the Green Dragon Force's attack.

BOOM!

The wind and clouds roiled and the earth shook.

The two powerful attacks crashed into each other, like a meteorite slamming into Earth.

An ear deafening sound resounded loudly on Mount Yunding.

"The five of you have got to win Lv Hua!" Qiu Mu-Cheng continued to pray fervently in her heart.

"Punks! Give it your best shot! Don't embarrass me!" Li Er shouted and cheered them on.

The two of them thought that their attacks might be equally matched and would remain

in a deadlock for some time.

But that didn't happen. The torch dragon smashed right through Lv Hua's attacks like they were made from paper.

All that power the move once carried disappeared like leaves falling off its branches in autumn.

"What?! How...how is this possible?! They're just a bunch of martial artists who aren't even at innate level yet! How...how did they break through my most powerful move?!" Lv Hua was completely stunned now.

He felt like his heart had been struck by lightning, and he just stared at the five of them in disbelief as shock and horror colored his eyes.

But that torch dragon wasn't going to wait for Lv Hua to get over his shock. After it broke through Lv Hua's attack, it continued to cut through the air and head right for him.

"Shit!" Lv Hua cursed in shock and turned to run, but he was too late.

A tremendous wave came crashing down

without any sign of stopping.

A few minutes later, the peak of Mount Yunding was quiet again.

The howling winds had stopped, and all the dust settled.

It was as if the sun was shining again after the rain!



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••• Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Lv Hua was still standing where he was.

But he didn't look confident or elegant anymore.

He looked more like he had literally just been roasted.

His clothes had been burnt to a crisp.

The skin on his chest had been seared and bright red blood flowed continuously down his burn wounds.

Lv Hua's body suddenly trembled and he spewed a mouthful of blood out.

He was weakened and resembled more like a deflated balloon now.

The attack that the Green Dragons launched earlier had clearly injured Lv Hua severely.

But Lv Hua was an imminent grandmaster after all.

The formation attack had made him unable to fight, but it wasn't enough to kill him yet.

But incapacitating him temporarily was

enough.

It was going to be easy to kill him once he was severely injured.

Once he saw that the Green Dragons' attack had worked, Li Er laughed merrily and ran over to kick Lv Hua.

The arrogant Young Master Lv of the rich and powerful Lv family was immediately kicked to the ground and landed on his face.

"HAHA! What say you now? Weren't you such a show off just now? Tsk! How dare a lowlife like you covet Mr Chu's woman? You're no match for even the authoritativeness that Mr Chu's fingertips exude! HAHA!" Li Er laughed like an idiot as he continued to kick Lv Hua relentlessly. He was so happy that the crisis was over, and his son had become someone so formidable.

"That's quite enough, Master Er. If you continue to kick him, he might die," Qiu Mu-Cheng quickly advised Li Er after feeling relieved that everything was over.

Even though Lv Hua deserved to die, he was

backed by a really powerful family.

If he died in Jiangdong, then they were going to face even more trouble in the future.

"Fine. Since Miss Qiu has said so, I'll let him live for the time being. But I don't think he'd live for long. Once Mr Chu returns, he's definitely going to die!" sneered Li Er coldly.

He knew Ye Fan well. Anybody who crossed the line would be killed for sure.

It didn't matter who this person was or what sort of background he had.

But of course, that was assuming Ye Fan was alive in the first place.

After Li Er stopped kicking him, Lv Hua actually managed to stand again.

But he had to lean against the wall to steady himself, probably because he was really too severely injured.

He raised his head to glare hatefully at the five members of the Green Dragon Force.

His lips were trembling and bleeding, and his

voice was hoarse as he shouted with bloodshot eyes, "Tell...tell me, what...what move was that? Tell me! TELL ME!!"

He still couldn't believe what just happened.

He simply couldn't accept it. He was the heir to the mighty Lv clan and a gifted martial artist groomed by War God Castle. But he had just lost to a bunch of youngsters!

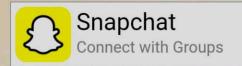
It was already bad enough to be unable to defeat Ye Fan. Now, he couldn't even defeat a few random proteges that Ye Fan had left behind in Jiangdong.

This really dealt the arrogant Lv Hua a big blow.

But the Green Dragons couldn't be bothered with his maniacal shouting.

Tai Shan, the most hot tempered among them, really wanted to kill Lv Hua with one punch, but Qiu Mu-Cheng stopped him.

Jiangdong was already in peril, so Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't want to create more enemies for nothing.







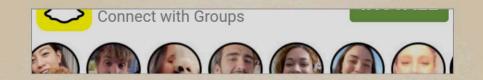


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The five of them surrounded her as they escorted her over to where Lv Hua was.

She looked down coldly at him and said in a furious and frosty voice, "Mr Lv, Mufan Group never meant to provoke the Lv family or Jiangbei. Please go back and tell the head of the Lv family to stop eyeing Jiangdong. It's better that we remain status quo, and I hope that you will learn to behave yourself!"

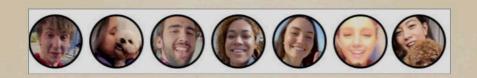
Qiu Mu-Cheng's fists were also tightly clenched.

She did really wish she could teach this man a good lesson after trying to violate her like that.

But she knew that sometimes, it was better to just tolerate things first.

There wasn't much she could do at the moment, so she had to hold it in, otherwise things might escalate beyond what she could handle.

So even though she was really furious, she could only try to chase Lv Hua away and didn't dare to kill him.



But to her surprise, Lv Hua suddenly burst out laughing at what Qiu Mu-Cheng said.

His laughter was so audacious and uninhibited, it sounded like he was mocking them.

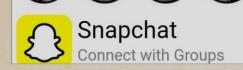
"What are you laughing about?" Qiu Mu-Cheng frowned and became very displeased.

"Exactly! What are you laughing about? You've been defeated and you're still laughing? What a shameless fellow!" Li Er chimed in.

"Hoho, Qiu Mu-Cheng, you're the first woman who dares to speak so haughtily to me! But did you think I've really lost?" Lv Hua smiled maliciously and his gaze grew icy as he stared at Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Everyone started to feel like something was amiss, and began to have a bad feeling about this.

Lv Hua continued to laugh maniacally. "Like I said, there's no woman that I wanted and couldn't have! So you think you're the only one with backups? You think you're the only





one with a plan B?"

He suddenly spun around and shouted towards the bottom of the mountain, "Fighters from the Lv clan! Get your asses here now!"

What?

Fighters from the Lv family were here?

The rest were alarmed and their hearts sank.

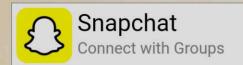
Several figures came leaping up the side of the mountain and appeared in front of Lv Hua within seconds.

"Young Master, the head of the Lv family has commanded us to come here and assist you!" three older men greeted Lv Hua respectfully as they cupped their fists.

Judging from the aura they exuded, these three men weren't much weaker than Lv Hua himself.

"Oh no," thought Li Er as his heart trembled.

He thought that the Green Dragon Force had already resolved this crisis.





He didn't expect Lv Hua to still be able to turn the tides.

"Excellent! Since you're all here, then don't waste time talking. Besides the prettiest woman over there, kill the rest and leave no one alive!" commanded Lv Hua after spitting out the blood in his mouth.

"Yes, Young Master!"

The three older men immediately charged at their targets. The surge of energy that emanated from their bodies made them seem like swords that had just been unsheathed.

Their blades were all pointed at the Green Dragons.

But after unleashing such a powerful attack, the Green Dragons were all spent now.

They weren't a match for these three fighters in the first place, never mind now.

The fighters from the Lv family were way too powerful and forced them to retreat repeatedly.





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Chapter 1399 Qiu Mu-Cheng's Painful Decision

It didn't take long for the Green Dragons to be soundly defeated by the martial artists from the Lv family.

Several blasts later, all five of them had flown out like a kite with a broken string.

They crashed heavily to the ground and kept throwing up blood.

"Haha! Qiu Mu-Cheng, how about now? Who's won now? And how's the loser now?" laughed Lv Hua merrily even though he was hurting from his earlier injuries.

The pride he had before this battle started returned to him.

"I admit that I'm not as powerful as Ye Fan, so I couldn't defeat him while he was still alive. But how could it be that the Young Master and future heir to the Lv clan would be unable to defeat him now that he's dead? I'm alive, while he's dead!" sneered Lv Hua. His words revealed the jealousy and hatred he felt towards Ye Fan.

He simply couldn't stand Ye Fan.

It wasn't only because Ye Fan had

Chapter 1399 Qiu Mu-Cheng's Painful Decision

humiliated him in South America. It was more because of the standing and power that Ye Fan commanded.

What right did a lowly born man from the countryside have to enjoy such power and influence?

What right did a young hooligan have to become a supreme grandmaster and become part of War God Castle?

And what right did an ordinary looking young fellow have to marry such a beautiful and intelligent wife?

Lv Hua couldn't accept it at all. He refused to.

Ye Fan was more poorly educated, had a lowly background, and lost to him in terms of looks and charm.

But why did he have everything that Lv Hua could only dream of?

"Ye Fan, just you wait. One day, I will have all the power, strength and women that you had, and I will have even more than you did! Getting your woman and your assets is only the beginning!" Lv Hua smiled mirthlessly as his fists were clenched tightly.

It was as if a fire was burning deep within his eyes.

"Men! Bring that woman back to my room so that I can have my way with her," said Lv Hua with the wave of his hand. His explicit words made Qiu Mu-Cheng pale in horror.

"Lv Hua, you're an animal! How dare you!" Li Er had more insults he wanted to hurl at Lv Hua, but someone else kicked him aside before he could say anymore.

"Where did this old geezer come from? Get lost or die!" spat one of the fighters from the Lv family before making a grab for Qiu Mu-Cheng.

"Miss Qiu, run! RUN!" shouted Li Er despite having fallen onto the ground in pain.

"Miss Qiu, run for it! Hurry!" Ye Yu-Yan and her team mates were sprawled on the ground, but they too, shouted at Qiu Mu-Cheng and told her to run, even though their lips were trembling and they were still reeling from their injuries.

Chapter 1399 Qiu Mu-Cheng's Painful Decision

But Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't seem to have heard any of their shouting. She didn't move at all.

She just stood there with despair in her eyes.

Tears seemed to gleam in her pretty eyes.

Was this her fate?

Did the heavens want her dead? Was Mufan Group, the company that she and Ye Fan set up, destined to be destroyed after all?

Qiu Mu-Cheng looked up at the sky and her tears rolled down her cheeks uncontrollably.

Even when faced with a crisis, Qiu Mu-Cheng did not run frantically, neither did she scream and cry in terror.

Just like that young man, she continued to stand quietly in the face of great danger.

She was like a tree that was rooted in the ground for eternity.

Her hair flew gently in the wind.

Her beautiful silhouette was the most beautiful scenery under these blue skies.

Chapter 1399 Qiu Mu-Cheng's Painful Decision

Anyone who saw this scene would have been blown away by this breathtaking sight.

But nobody could see the despair and defeat in Qiu Mu-Cheng's eyes.

"Wait, is Miss Qiu thinking of..." Li Er seemed to notice that there was something strange about Qiu Mu-Cheng's behavior. His heart suddenly shuddered and his face paled.

He was right. Qiu Mu-Cheng had already decided on her fate from the moment the Green Dragons were defeated.

She decided that she would not run, and she would not kneel and beg for mercy either.

She was Ye Fan's wife, the queen of Jiangdong, the lover of a pillar of the nation.

She was determined not to embarrass her beloved husband.

Even if Ye Fan had really perished, she was still going to uphold the prestige and honor that a pillar of the nation ought to have!

She suddenly pulled out a knife that she had been hiding on herself all along. Everyone





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watched in horror as a determination that followed a painful decision filled her heart, and she raised the knife to stab it into her own heart.

When he was alive, he was known as a great man. In his death, he would still be remembered as a hero!

That was what Qiu Mu-Cheng hoped for Ye Fan as his wife. She was not going to let herself become a taint on Ye Fan's glorious legacy.

She would rather kill herself than to let her body be sullied by another man.

"Miss Qiu, don't do it!" shouted Li Er loudly.

"Miss Qiu! NOO!!" The members of the Green Dragon Force burst into tears.

"What the hell?!! Stop her! Don't let her die!" Lv Hua got a terrible shock and hurriedly ordered his men to stop Qiu Mu-Cheng from doing this to herself.

But they were all too far away.

If Qiu Mu-Cheng was determined to die,

there was no way they could stop her from this distance.

It was evening time and the fiery red sun was dipping into the horizon. Its remaining rays fell upon her and cast a shadow filled with sorrow.

Just before she was to meet her end, many things ran through Qiu Mu-Cheng's mind.

She remembered the pathetic wedding she had when Ye Fan married into the Qiu family, she remembered the humiliation that Ye Fan had suffered under her family, she remembered that invincible silhouette she saw at the foot of Mount Tai, she remembered how Ye Fan rose to receive respect and bows from the rich and powerful of Jiangdong at the Feast of the Sea and Sky.

She had been disappointed before, she had basked in glory before. She had cried before, but she had also laughed before.

She had seen the darkest moments of the night, but she had also enjoyed the brightest sunshine at the peak of the mountain.

She had weathered many storms and hardships with that man.

Even though she was only 23 this year, she had seen much suffering and enjoyed much glory at the same time.

She was content with that.

Even if she had to die today, she wasn't going to complain.

But she had one regret.

She regretted being unable to fulfil her duty as Ye Fan's wife, and had not given him the warmth and gentleness of a wife even after being married to him for so long.

She had also failed to give him any children.

"Farewell, Ye Fan. I won't be able to continue down this road of life with you anymore. But I really want to see you again, and I really want to tell you in person that I really, really love you..."

The setting sun cast a sad shadow on the mountain.

Qiu Mu-Cheng's tears glistened tragically as she stood beneath the clouds.

Her mesmerizing face was as beautiful as a painting.

But this same beautiful woman was about to take her own life even as everyone else could only watch on in horror.

"NO!"

"STOP!!"

"MISS QIU!!"

The Green Dragons were still shouting at her to stop. Their desperate cries resounded loudly in the air.

Li Er started crying when he saw this scene as well.

If Qiu Mu-Cheng died like that, he really didn't know how he could possibly face Ye Fan again.

How was he going to explain things to Mr Chu?

Chapter 1399 Qiu Mu-Cheng's Painful Decision

Even dying a thousand times wouldn't exonerate him!

"Miss Qiu, please, don't kill yourself! If you die, then my entire family is going to die too..." Li Er was already drowning in a puddle of his own tears.



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But no matter how desperate their cries were, it was for nothing.

They could only watch as the lovely woman perished before their eyes.

Amidst their devastation, they did not expect a burst of green light to erupt in the horizon.

The next moment, light arced across the heavens like a shooting star.

Before anyone realized what was going on, the light had arrived next to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

CLANG!

A bright metallic sound rang in the air. The light hit the dagger in Qiu Mu-Cheng's hands and sent it flying.

The sudden turn of events startled everyone.

Alarm flashed across the eyes of the woman who was adamant to kill herself.

"What's going on? What just happened? Why did Miss Qiu's dagger suddenly fly out of her hands?" hollered Li Er with incredulity as he widened his eyes.

The Green Dragon Force seemed to have sensed something. They looked up in unison.

Lv Hua and the others also frowned and stared in the direction from which the light had come from.

It was clear that someone else had arrived on the scene.

Who could it be?

Was it a friend or an enemy?

Had Ye Fan himself returned?

Everyone's hearts were hanging in their throats.

It was then that a figure finally appeared in the distant horizon and in their line of sight.

He was dressed in white, his eyes bright like a starlit sky and his eyebrows trimmed and sharp like blades. He was the epitome of dignity and grace.

An air of absolute authority exuded from his person.

Upon his appearance, waves of invisible power swept the lands.

They felt as if they were not seeing the arrival of a mere man but a mountain rising from the earth.

"This...this is..."

Whatever arrogance Lv Hua had on his face vanished and was replaced by alarm when he saw the new arrival.

His face took on the pallor of a ghost!

Unprecedented horror and fear swelled inside him.

It was as if he had just been struck by lightning.

He stood there, lost for words and frozen to the spot while shock filled his eyes.

The man who had just arrived was the most powerful man in China and the leader of the six pillars of the nation. He was Ye Qing-Tian!

"On your knees!" Ye Qing-Tian's voice

rumbled like thunder and reverberated across the heavens. Upon the sight of the mess before him, he had turned towards Lv Hua instantly and yelled furiously at him.

"How dare you! "

"Who the hell are you?"

"You've certainly got guts!"

"How dare you demand that our Young Master kneel before you!"

"You're asking to be killed!"

The martial artists of the Lv family blew up instantly when they heard what the stranger had just said and began hurling curses at the man in white.

"Oh my god! You're the ones asking to be killed! Don't drag me down with you!" cursed Lv Hua as he kicked those idiots. He had nearly wetted his pants when they had started cursing at Ye Qing-Tian. In fact, he was ready to burst into tears.

Sheer terror had nearly sent his soul fleeing from his very body.

This man standing before them was the most powerful man in the Chinese martial arts circle.

There was no one who could rival him in terms of the power and status he wielded.

He symbolized the entire Chinese martial arts circle.

Lv Hua's grandfather would have to fall to his knees and pay his respects to this man despite being a grandmaster himself.

These idiots must be blind to insult the God of War himself!

They had threatened the God of War's life!

They were the ones who were asking to be killed!

"You idiots! You're going to get me killed one of these days! Get down on your knees before the God of War and beg for his forgiveness!" cursed Lv Hua.

"Young Master, what did we do wrong? Why are you hitting us? What God of War?" asked the men unhappily.





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They had been trying to defend Lv Hua but had earned nothing but curses and blows for their loyalty. Anyone would feel aggrieved.

"I'm hitting you because you're fools! Do you know who he is? He's the God of War, the strongest martial artist in China! How dare you offend the God of War? You won't get away with it even if you have nine lives to spare! If you want to live, get down on your knees and beg him for forgiveness!" hollered Lv Hua at the top of his voice.

How he wished he could kill these idiots himself.

Ye Qing-Tian's arrival had unsettled Lv Hua and filled him with unease.

His men's disrespectful behavior towards Ye Qing-Tian had been fuel to the fire.

What?

"He's...the strongest martial artist...in China?" Lv Hua's men stammered.

They nearly collapsed into a boneless heap.

They might have lived all their lives as

servants to the Lv family but that didn't mean that they had not heard of the most powerful martial artist in China, the God of War, Ye Qing-Tian.

Every martial artist in the Chinese martial arts circle would know his name.

He was like a god to every martial artist.

Their god had descended upon them.

Yet, here they were, threatening to kill him.

Heavens!

What had they just done?

These men were clearly frightened.

They got onto their shaking knees and began to beg for their lives. "Esteemed God of War...we were blind. We didn't know who you were. We deserve to be killed for that! Please forgive us!"

Their voices and their entire bodies trembled with fear as they spoke.

"You're right. You do deserve death!"

thundered Ye Qing-Tian furiously.

Rocks shattered upon his thunderous rumble. Sand and shattered rock flew into the air.

The three men before him spat out mouthfuls of blood and fell to the ground as if they had just suffered a terrible blow.

"That...what technique was that?" The Green Dragon Force stared in shock.

The man had not moved an inch.

With a single roar, he had wounded the martial artists of the Lv family and sent them flying.

His mere words had resulted in the outburst of incredible power.

The Green Dragon Force could not imagine the extent of power the man in white was capable of when he did make an actual move.

"You too! Why aren't you on your knees and begging for Miss Qiu's forgiveness?"

The God of War's eyes turned from the injured martial artists of the Lv family and back to Lv Hua once again.

His voice sent a wave of invisible power sweeping across them all.

Lv Hua felt a sudden weight on him. It was as if he were being crushed by a mountain.

With a loud thud, the high and mighty young master of a powerful family fell and landed on his knees.

"Why, God of War? Why do you make me kneel? They're nobodies! I am a member of a powerful, longstanding family! I have served this nation and proved myself! Why should I kneel for them? I don't understand!"

Lv Hua was terrified of the God of War. But the latter had forced him onto his knees without any explanation. He simply couldn't accept that.

The next moment, the God of War flipped his sleeve suddenly and sent a forceful gust of wind slashing at Lv Hua's face.

Streaks of blood appeared upon instant

contact.

The force of the attack sent Lv Hua flying a dozen meters into the distance.



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"You scoundrel, how dare you ask me why! I've told you to treat Ye Fan's family with every kindness! Is this what you call kindness? You've insulted the loved ones of a great warrior. Do you know the punishment for such a crime? You knew what you were doing was wrong and yet you still did it. That makes your crime more hideous and hateful. You're only alive right now on account of your grandfather's contributions to the nation!" thundered Ye Qing-Tian as he shook with fury.

It had been a long time since he had felt so furious.

He had told Tang Hao to send his men to Jiangdong to pay a visit to Ye Fan's family because he had wanted to make up for what the country had owed Ye Fan as well as find out if Ye Fan's family were in any trouble and required any help.

But after some careful thought, he had decided to make a personal trip to Jiangdong.

He had been the one who had requested Ye Fan's debut in the martial arts circle.

He had been the one who had failed to protect Ye Fan.

He had been responsible for what had happened to Ye Fan.

He had to make a trip to Jiangdong personally and seek the forgiveness of Ye Fan's family.

Before his trip, Ye Qing-Tian had asked Tang Hao and found out that the team from War God Castle had left for Jiangdong.

He had intended to tag along with the team. But they had left, so Ye Qing-Tian had made his way to Jiangdong himself.

He had not expected these men from War God Castle to bring more trouble to Ye Fan's family instead of helping the latter. In fact, they had brought not just trouble but a disaster to their doorstep!

How could Ye Qing-Tian not be furious?

Lv Hua was pale with terror. In the face of the God of War's fury, he found that he could not utter a single word. He felt guilty.

He knew that he was in the wrong.

He had thought of Ye Fan as a budding young martial artist who had offended the King of Fighters. Now that he was dead, War God Castle wouldn't care much for him or his family.

That had been why he had dared to act so brazenly.

He had not expected the most powerful man in China, Ye Qing-Tian, to make a personal appearance in Jiangdong.

Events had unfolded in a fashion that had vastly exceeded what Lv Hua had anticipated.

Nevertheless, Lv Hua still tried to explain his actions. "Esteemed God of War, I wasn't disrespecting Grandmaster Ye Fan in any manner. I simply couldn't stop myself from feeling this way. Everyone has emotions. I am truly in love with Miss Qiu. I truly wish to have her as my wife. I want to help the late Grandmaster Ye Fan take care of her."

"Silence, scoundrel!" thundered Ye Qing-Tian as he smacked Lv Hua on his cheek again. He glared at the latter furiously. "How could you spew such shameless words? Ye Fan died for our country. His bones are barely settled in the ground. Your actions reveal your utter disrespect for him. How dare you try to reason your way out of this and try to excuse your attempt at coveting his wife? You are a monster!"

Lv Hua's face was filled with terror. He looked away and dared not utter another word. He was worried that he would drive Ye Qing-Tian into further rage and that the latter would kill him in a fit of anger.

The God of War appeared to know exactly what Lv Hua was thinking. His words were cold when he spoke next. "Don't worry, I'm not going to kill you. If you still know any shame, you will return to Yanjing immediately and turn yourself in at the martial arts court. Confess your crime and accept punishment for your wrongdoing. The martial arts court will decide whether you live or die!"

Ye Qing-Tian was a powerful man with great authority and status. His words and actions





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had an overwhelming impact on the rest of society.

He might possess the power to kill a man but he rarely used that power when he was in China.

Most of the time, he would choose to send criminals like Lv Hua to the martial arts courts to face trial and punishment.

The martial arts court was a court set up to trial martial artists.

War God Castle had set up this court to handle serious crimes committed by Chinese martial artists that had grievous impact on the rest of society.

Years ago, a Chinese grandmaster had killed countless innocent people and raped numerous young women. His terrible crimes had incurred the wrath of everyone.

Everyone in the Chinese martial arts circle scorned and despised him.

Upon his arrest, he had been tried in the martial arts court and sentenced to death. They had executed him there and then.

Ye Qing-Tian was going to have Lv Hua face trial in the martial arts court. His rage as well as how seriously he treated Lv Hua's misdeed was evident.

Lv Hua went limp when he heard what Ye Qing-Tian had said. Horror filled his eyes.

"The martial arts...court? Esteemed God of War, I've realized the error of my ways. I know that I've done something terribly wrong. I am willing to accept punishment for my wrongdoing. I will apologize to Miss Qiu and compensate her duly. I'll pay any amount that she requests. But please, not the martial arts court!"

Lv Hua was petrified.

He had heard of the martial arts court.

Since its establishment, the martial arts court had tried but nine cases.

Every criminal that it had tried had been sentenced to death. None had walked out of the courts alive.

If he were to be sent to the martial arts court for trial, it would be no different than

sending him straight into the gates of hell. He was a dead man walking.

Lv Hua was naturally terrified.

But Ye Qing-Tian cared not for his pleas at all.

With a flip of his sleeve, he sent Lv Hua flying into the distance again.

"Get out of my sight! You can explain your actions to the judge in court!" roared Ye Qing-Tian furiously, his voice rumbling like furious thunder.

Lv Hua spat out a mouthful of blood as he flew across the sky. He crashed into the ground and passed out instantly.

"Young Master! Young Master!"

The martial artists of the Lv family rushed towards Lv Hua, helped him up and fled immediately.

Ye Qing-Tian did not pursue them.

There was no need for it.

No one in China had yet dared to defy his word.

He was done with Lv Hua. The air of chilly fury vanished from his person.

He turned towards Qiu Mu-Cheng with guilt in his eyes. "You must be Ye Fan's wife, Miss Qiu Mu-Cheng. I'm really sorry, Miss Qiu. We were remiss in the selection of our men. They were meant to help, not to cause you harm. On behalf of the Chinese martial arts circle, I extend our sincerest apology to you. Don't worry, the alarm and insult that you've suffered today will not be for nothing. I will make sure that justice is served."

"Anyone could have said that. We don't need your hypocrisy and your lies! Just keep a tight leash on your men!" scoffed Li Er as he glared at Ye Qing-Tian. He had climbed to his feet and was now brushing dust off his clothes.

"Dad, can't you keep your mouth shut? That's the God of War!" whispered Li Zi-Yang fearfully to his father. Li Er might not have heard of the God of War, but the rest of the Green Dragon Force had.

"Yes, you're right. We will put in measures to keep a close eye on our men," Ye Qing-Tian said humbly and with no hint of anger in the face of Li Er's outraged protests.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng cared nothing for that.



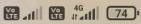
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Qiu Mu-Cheng looked into the God of War's eyes with her teary ones. "You must be someone important in the Chinese martial arts circle. I just want to know one thing. Is Ye Fan truly dead? Please tell me the truth. Is he dead or alive?"

Her voice was filled with desperation, fear and sorrow.

In the face of Qiu Mu-Cheng's questions, Ye Qing-Tian fell silent.

This was a man who stood at the pinnacle of power. Yet, for the very first time, a woman's questions had put him at a loss, and it showed on his face.

After a long moment, the God of War shook his head and sighed heavily.

"Miss Qiu, we've done our best but we didn't manage to find Ye Fan's remains. I would very much like to believe that he's simply lost contact with us and that he'll return to us in the near future. But I don't want to lie to you. Based on the evidence that we have, we can only conclude that Ye Fan is dead."

"So, it's only a deduction then? Does that

mean that there's the slightest possibility that he might still be alive? There's a chance that he's not dead, isn't there? He could still be alive, right?" Qiu Mu-Cheng asked desperately. The calm and level-headed young lady of the past had lost her composure completely and was on the verge of madness.

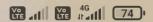
She wouldn't stop repeating herself as tears streamed unceasingly and uncontrollably down her cheeks.

Ye Qing-Tian had no idea what he should say. After a long moment of silence, he finally turned away from Qiu Mu-Cheng and said slowly, in a low and heavy voice. "Miss Qiu, I will not give you hope where there is none. Despair may hurt, but nothing is more agonizing than hoping and waiting for something that will never arrive."

Guilt and regret churned in his gut.

If he had not extended asked Ye Fan to go on this mission, none of this would have happened.

To a certain extent, he had been the one who had destroyed a happy and blissful family.



Perhaps the remorse was too much to bear. Ye Qing-Tian did not remain long and left shortly.

Before his departure, he said something to Qiu Mu-Cheng.

"I treat Ye Fan as a friend. If you get into any trouble in the future, seek me out in Yanjing. I will do all I can to help."

Ye Qing-Tian left Jiangdong but he did not head back to Yanjing.

Instead, he leapt into the heavens, crossed the region of South Tibet and entered a foreign country.

No one knew why the God of War had embarked on this particular journey.

Meanwhile, Lv Hua had been brought back to the Lv family in Jiangbei and given medical attention. He came to shortly.

He had no time to rest at all. Instead, he leaped out of bed, raced through the house and then fell upon his knees, right before the

old master of the Lv family, Lv Song-Liang.

"Grandfather, I've gotten myself into trouble. Please, please save me. Grandfather, you have to save your grandson!" wept Lv Hua fearfully.

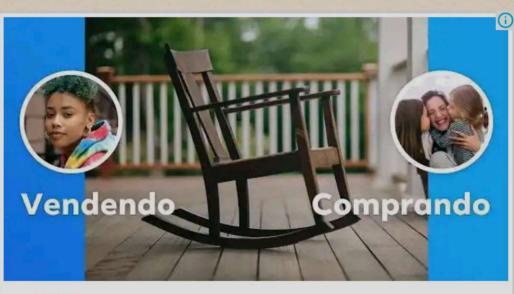
"Why are you crying? You're a man and men of the Lv family do not cry. This isn't the behavior a man of the Lv family should display! Get up and tell me what's wrong. Don't worry. It doesn't matter how much trouble you got yourself into, your grandfather will handle it for you. I've not come across anything or anyone in China that I've not been able to deal with."

Seated upon a raised platform was a sprightly old man with snowy white hair and a youthful face.

One could hardly tell from his appearance that he was nearing the age of eighty.

The old man appeared calm in the face of his grandson's terrified weeping.

He carried himself with confidence and arrogance.





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As a grandmaster who held a position in the grandmaster ranking, he did have a right to his arrogance.

The power that he wielded and the respect that he commanded meant that there were few problems in China that he could not resolve.

His grandson could have committed a murder, but as long as Lv Song-Liang wanted to save his grandson from the consequences of murdering someone, he could.

That had been why the battle-hardened and wise old man had continued sipping his tea calmly in spite of how terrified Lv Hua seemed.

"Grandfather, it's the God of War. The God of War wants me to turn myself in to the martial arts court. He wants me dead. Grandfather, I don't want to die. I don't want to turn myself in to the martial arts court. Please, grandfather, you have to save me!"

The old man trembled and spat out the tea that he had drunk.

"What...what did you just say? Did you just say that you offended the God of War, Ye Qing-Tian?"

Lv Song-Liang's former composure fled him as he stared at Lv Hua with eyes as wide as saucers. He looked as if he had just seen a ghost.

"You rascal! Of all the people to offend, why did you offend the God of War? Are you trying to get your whole family killed? I'm going to kill you myself!"

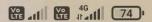
Lv Song-Liang was livid. With a single kick, he sent Lv Hua flying through the doorway.

This was the God of War they were talking about.

He was the guardian of the Chinese martial arts circle, the leader of the six pillars of the nation and the most powerful martial artist in Asia.

Everyone in the Chinese martial arts circle revered him as their lord and master.

He was the one who had set down the laws and rules that governed the martial arts



circle.

Even Lv Song-Liang had to show the God of War respect and kowtow to him.

Yet his rascal of a grandson had somehow foolishly incurred the wrath of the God of War.

That hadn't just been plain suicide. He had just sentenced his entire family clan to death.

If the God of War willed it, he could have the Lv family rid from this earth. All it took was a single order.

"How dare you come pleading me for help? Get out of my sight! Get out of the Lv family! How dare you offend the God of War! You're going to die for it!" cursed Lv Song-Liang as he trembled with rage.

"Grandfather, I was wrong! I'm so sorry! I really am!"

In the face of Lv Song-Liang's fury, Lv Hua dared not attempt say anything to defend himself. Instead, he admitted his erroneous ways and wouldn't stop groveling.

Falling to his knees next to Lv Hua, Lv Hua's father began to plead on behalf of his son.

"Father, you can't not do anything. He's your grandson and a descendant of the Lv family. He's our family's hope. If he dies, it'll be the end of the Lv family."

After a long moment, the fury churning inside Lv Song-Liang finally died down. He gradually regained his composure.

"You rascal! Come over here and tell me exactly what you did. How did you manage to incur the wrath of the God of War?"

No matter how mad Lv Song-Liang was, he couldn't just give up on his own grandson.

Lv Hua's father was right. Lv Hua was the Lv family's only hope of rising to glory in the future.

He was more gifted than Lv Song-Liang could ever be.

Lv Hua obeyed his grandfather and told him exactly what had happened.

"So, it's all because of this Ye Fan."

Lv Song-Liang's worry subsided significantly when he realized the root of Lv Hua's predicament.

"Grandfather, is there still hope for me?" wailed Lv Hua.

"This isn't exactly a serious matter but it's not to be taken lightly as well. I've heard of Ye Fan. He's the youngest man in Chinese to be made a supreme grandmaster. But it doesn't matter how powerful a martial artist he was. He's dead, after all. Besides, he was relatively new to the martial arts circle and, as you mentioned, offended quite a few people while he'd been alive. You were simply unlucky. Otherwise, no one would have bothered with something that concerns a dead man."



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